

GOVERMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH ABSTRACT

Department for Women, Children, (Estt) Disabled & Senior Citizens – Andhra Pradesh Women Development & Child Welfare Service Rules – Disciplinary action against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex-Child Development Project Officer, Adilabad - – Imposition of punishment under Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 - Orders - Issued

DEPARTMENT FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, (ESTT.A2) DISABLED & SENIOR CITIZENS

G.O.Rt.No. 44

Dt. 02nd February 2011. Read the following:-

- 1. Charge Memo No. C/434/99, dt. 27.07.99 of PD, DW & CDA, Adilabad
- 2. From Smt. B. Victoria, Ex-CDPO, Adilabad, defence statement, dt. 20.08.99.
- 3. Procs.No.11426/E2/99, dt.19.11.99 of Dir, WD & CW, Hyd
- 4. Procs.No.11426/E2/99, dt.25.11.99 of Dir, WD & CW, Hyd
- 5.D.O.Lr.No.B/162/2000, dt.24.02.00 of Collector and District Magistrate Adilabad.
- 6. Charge Memo.No.11426/E2/99, dt.27.03.00 of Director, Women Development & Child Welfare, Hyderabad.
- 7. From Smt. B. Victoria, Ex-CDPO, Adilabad, defence statement, dt.08.06.2000.
- 8. D.O.Lr.No.B/1028/2000, dt.06.01.01of Collector and District Magistrate Adilabad.
- 9. Charge Memo No.11426/E2/99, dt.16.02.01 of Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyd.
- 10. Procs.No.11426/E2/99, dt.04.02.02 of Dir, WD & CW, Hyd
- 11. From the RDD, Warangal Report Lr.No.A/916/99, dt.15.07.02.
- 12. From the RDD, Warangal Report Lr.No.A/916/99, dt.23.06.03.
- 13. From the RDD, Warangal Report Lr.No.A/916/99, dt.24.06.03
- 14. From the Commrr, WD & CW, Hyd Lr.No.11426/Vig-2/99, Dt.16.09.04, dt.08.02.07.
- 15. SCN Memo.No.5462/Estt-A2/04, dt.05.07.2008
- 16. Representation, Dt.18.09.2008 of Smt. B. Victoria, CDPO(Retd).
- 17. Orders of the Hon'ble A.P.A.T., Dt.24.09.2008 in O.A.No.7893/08.
- 18. Govt.Memo.No.5462/Estt.A2/2004-1, Dt.15.11.2008.
- 19. G.O.Rt.No.108, W.D., C.W. & D.W. (Estt.A2) Dept., Dt.01.04.2009.
- 20. Govt.Lr.No.5462/Estt.A2/2004 Dt.04.12.09 addressed to the Secretary, APPSC, Hyderabad.
- 21. From the Secy APPSC, Lr.No.146/RT-I/3/10, dt.04.03.2010.

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ORDER:

As per the orders of the District Collector, Adilabad, the Project Director, District Women Development & Child Welfare Agency, has conducted a preliminary enquiry against Smt. B. Victoria, Child Development Project Officer, (CDPO) Adilabad into the allegations, on the basis of the prima facie case for collection of percentages from Anganwadi Workers from their TA & DA, non-maintenance of cash book and Un-Disbursed Pay Register, shortage of cash in cash chest, delayed payment of Anganwadi Worker honorarium, misbehavior with staff and leaving the Head Quarters without permission during her tenure as Child Development Project Officer at Integrated Child Development Services Scheme Adilabad.

2. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme was started in the year 1975 in Andhra Pradesh. The programme aims at the comprehensive development of the child, right from prenatal period through infancy to childhood, by a series of coordinated activities of Nutrition, Health and Educational (NHE) services. Care of Women, Children and Adolescent Girls occupy the center stage of the programme. To achieve the laudable objectives, apart from massive funding for the supplementary nutrition, the programme provides for elaborate personnel such as Anganwadi Workers at village level numbering about 80000. To monitor and guide them about 1837 supervisors are sanctioned for cluster of villages and 385 Child Development Project Officer for every 3 to 4 mandals. Inspite of this programme being under implementation since 1975 and gradually up-scaled to achieve universalization with budget outlay of over Rs.1,000.00 crores, the dismal progress achieved in addressing malnutrition, Neonatal deaths and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) continue to be areas of serious concern. The Child Development Project Officers as responsible functionaries impact the implementation of programmes in over 100 villages effecting thousands of families.

- 3. On a prima facie case being established against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad, the Project Director, District Women & Child Development Agency, Adilabad issued a charge memo in the ref.1st read above. In the reference 2nd read above, Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad, submitted her defence statement denying all the charges framed against her. After examining the defence statement of Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad, the Regional Deputy Director, Warangal was appointed as Enquiry Officer to conduct a detailed enquiry into the charges leveled against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad under Rule 20 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991. Based on the report of the District Collector, Adilabad vide letter 5th read above, the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad has issued charge memo in the ref. 6th read above, on 6 counts under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CCA) Rules, 1991.
- 4. In the reference 7th read above, Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad, submitted her defence statement denying all the charges framed against her.
- 5. Based on the report of the District Collector, Adilabad vide 8th read above, the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad has issued another charge memo in the ref. 9th read above, on one count under Rule 20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CCA) Rule, 1991.
- 6. After examining the above matter and in supercession of the orders issued in the reference 4th read above, the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad has appointed Regional Deputy Director, Warangal as Enquiry Officer in the ref. 10th read above to conduct a detailed enquiry into all the charges leveled against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad under Rule 20 (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CCA) Rule 1991.
- 7. In the references 11th to 13th read above, the Enquiry Officer has submitted her report to the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad with her findings on all the charges leveled on Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad as detailed below:-

Charge Memo No	Total	IO's findings
& Date	No.of	~
	Charges	
C/434/99, dt.27.07.99 of PD, DW & CDA, Adilabad	14	Out of 14 charges, 7 charges viz.1,2,3,4,11,12,14 are held proved and the remaining charges are not proved.
11426/E2/99, dt.19.11.99 of Dir, WD & CW, Hyd	6	Out of 6 charges, 1 charge viz.1, is held proved and the remaining charges are not proved.
11426/E2/99, dt.25.11.99 of Dir, WD & CW, Hyd	1	The charge held not proved-

- 8. In the ref. 14th read above, the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad has reported that Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad has retired from service on 31/06/2007 on superannuation and requested to pass necessary orders in the matter.
- 9. After going through the enquiry report and the circumstances reported by the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad in the ref.14th cited, and after careful examination of the matter taking into consideration of the gravity of charges held proved, Government have provisionally decided to impose 75% cut in the admissible pension of Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad permanently besides recovery of an amount of Rs.14807/- from her pensionary benefits for the charges held proved against her and accordingly a show cause notice was issued to her under rule 9(2) of the Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 vide memo. 15th read above.
- 10. In reply to the show cause notice she has stated that the Enquiry Officer had recorded the statements on her own accord without being mentioned as list of (Contd....3..)

witnesses along with the Charge Sheet and the statements were recorded in her absence and that the said statements cannot be relied upon to substantiate Charges framed against her. Further, she had requested for legible copies of the statements recorded by the Enquiry Officer of Smt. A.Lilli Bai, Smt.K.Gangamma and Smt.M.Thionam, Anganwadi Workers and Smt.T.E.Rani, Senior Assistant and the Attendance Register pages to submit her further defence statement.

11. While the matter stood thus, Smt. B. Victoria, filed O.A.7893 of 2008 before the Hon'ble A.P.A.T. and the Hon'ble Tribunal disposed of the O.A. on 24.09.2008 as follows:

"It is always left open for the applicant to state all the grounds raised herein with respect to the charge memo and enquiry in the explanation to the show cause notice and if the final orders go against the applicant, it is open for the applicant to raise all the grounds with respect to the validity of the charge memo and consequential proceedings before this Tribunal. Therefore, this Tribunal is not inclined to interfere with the show cause notice, dt.05.07.2008.

"It is the further submission of the learned counsel for the applicant that the applicant has submitted his/her explanation to the respondents on 18/09/2000. If that is so, the respondents shall examine the explanation and pass a speaking order and if the applicant is aggrieved by the final order passed, it is always left open to challenge the same by raising all the grounds with respect to the valid it of the charge memo before this tribunal. It is the further submission of the learned counsel for the applicant that the applicant has retired from service on 30/06/2007 and the applicant has not been given any provisional pension till date. Therefore, the respondents are directed to pay the provisional pension till date and continue to pay the same till the final orders are passed. The arrears from the date of retirement till the date of this order shall be paid within four weeks from the date of receipt of this order. With the above observations, the OA is disposed of accordingly. No costs."

- In pursuance of the above orders of the Hon'ble Tribunal, a speaking order was passed in Memo.18th read above and a copy has been sent to Accused Officer and orders were also issued in G.O. 19th read above sanctioning provisional pension to her. As per the instructions of the Government, the Director Women Development and Child Welfare Department, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad through the Memo., Dt.27.02.2009 informed Smt. B. Victoria, Child Development Project Officer (CDPO) retd., to come over to the Directorate to peruse records and obtain copies required by her. She has however not turned up till date to peruse or to obtain required records. The Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad further informed that the enquiry was conducted on 24/01/2001, 25/01/2001 the Enquiry Officer has taken written depositions of Anganwadi Workers, Supervisors & Senior Assistant concerned and also as per enquiry report it is clear that, the Delinquent Officer had given her Defence Statement at that time. As such, it is understood that the enquiry was done in the presence of Accused Officer. If she had any objection she could have made comment at that time it self but she did not do so and instead gave a belated representation, which has been duly considered.
- 13. The provisional decision of the Government to impose 75% cut in the admissible pension of Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad permanently besides recovery of an amount of Rs.14807/- from her pensionary benefits for the charges held proved against her was referred to the Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission for their concurrence vide letter 20th read above against which the Commission, has advised vide its letter in reference 21st read above that 20% cut in pension permanently is sufficient instead of 75% cut in pension and recovery of Rs14,807=00 since only 8 charges out of 30 were proved.
- 14. After careful examination of the matter, Government hereby agree with the above advise of the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission. and finally decid to impose a 20% cut in pension permanently and recovery of Rs14,807=00 against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad (Retired) as a measure of punishment for the charges held proved against her.

15. Accordingly, the Government in exercise of the powers conferred under sub rule (1) of Rule 9 of the Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980, hereby order for a cut of 20% in pension permanently and recovery of Rs.14,807=00 against Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Adilabad (Retired) from her pension.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. CHAYA RATAN, SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

То

Smt. B. Victoria, Ex- Child Development Project Officer, Adilabad through the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad (we)

The Commissioner, Women Development & Child Welfare, Hyderabad (two copies) she is requested to serve the original copy on the retired officer, duly obtaining dated acknowledgement on the duplicate copy and return the same to this Department.

SC/SF

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER